

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 02263 251146Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01 /084 W
-----046536 252351Z /75

R 251058Z JUL 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1465
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONO HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2263

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH, PINT, MPOL, SHUM
SUBJ: LIBERATION ARMY DAILY COMMENTATOR ON REVERSAL OF
VERDICTS

REFS: A. PEKING 1927; B. PEKING 1681

1. SUMMARY: THE FRONT PAGE OF THE JULY 25 PEOPLE'S DAILY
CARRIES THE FULL TEXT OF A SPECIAL COMMENTATOR ARTICLE FROM
THE LIBERATION ARMY DAILY -- A FORMAT USED SEVERAL TIMES
BEFORE TO PROMULGATE POLICY POSITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH TENG
HSIAO-PING. THE SPECIAL COMMENTATOR FOCUSES ON THE NEED TO
CARRY OUT THE PARTY'S POLICY ON CADRES WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION
TO REVIEWING CASES AND REVERSING JUDGMENTS ON INDIVIDUALS
WHO HAVE BEEN UNJUSTLY CRITICIZED IN THE PAST. REVIEWING
PAST JUDGMENTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY MAKE MANY CADRES IN THE PARTY
AND IN THE BUREAUCRACY VERY UNCOMFORTABLE. THE COMMENTATOR
ALSO REMINDS US THAT CRITICISM OF LIN PIAO'S LINGERING
INFLUENCE MUST BE CLOSELY LINKED WITH THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN
AGAINST THE GANG OF FOUR. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 02263 251146Z

2. EXPANDING ON TENG'S THEME OF "SEEKING TRUTH FROM FACTS"
AND AN EARLIER COMMENTARY ON REVISION OF MARXISM-LENINISM-MAO
TSE-TUNG THOUGHT (REFS), ANOTHER LIBERATION ARMY DAILY SPECIAL
COMMENTATOR ARTICLE UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING
THE PARTY'S RECENT CHANGES IN POLICY TOWARD CADRES. ORIGINALLY
CARRIED IN THE JULY 23 ISSUE OF THE LIBERATION ARMY DAILY,

THE ARTICLE WAS REPRINTED AS THE LEAD ARTICLE IN THE JULY 25 PEOPLE'S DAILY. THE SPECIAL COMMENTATOR CLOSELY IDENTIFIES HIMSELF WITH TENG HSIAO-PING'S NO-NONSENSE APPROACH TO POLICY IMPLEMENTATION: CADRES MUST "SEEK TRUTH FROM FACTS", AND REVIEW CASES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN UNJUSTLY CRITICIZED IN THE PAST. THE COMMENTATOR SINGLES OUT HSU SHIH-YU'S KWANGCHOU MILITARY REGION, HAN HSIEN-CHU'S LANCHOU MILITARY REGION AND THE GENERAL LOGISTICS DEPARTMENT AS EXAMPLES WHERE IMPORTANT GAINS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN IMPLEMENTING THE POLICY ON REVERSING VERDICTS. THE COMMENTATOR WARNS, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE STILL SOME CADRES WHO DO NOT TAKE THIS WORK SERIOUSLY AND GREATER EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO RECTIFY "INCORRECT FILES" AND RESTORE THE GOOD NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO SUFFERED UNDER THE GANG OF FOUR AND LIN PIAO.

3. THE ARTICLE COMES IN THE WAKE OF AN APRIL CENTRAL DIRECTIVE ON REVERSING VERDICTS (READ TO FOREIGN EXPERTS HERE SEVERAL WEEKS AGO) AND RENEWED POSTER ACTIVITY IN PEKING AND IN SEVERAL PROVINCIAL CITIES ABOUT PERSONAL GRIEVANCES. WHILE THE ARTICLE AND THE CENTRAL DIRECTIVE APPEAR TO BE ATTEMPTS TO CLEAR THE AIR AND RESTORE JUDICIAL PROCESSES TO THE CHINESE POLITICAL SYSTEM, REVIEW OF PAST GRIEVANCES, PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND JUDGMENTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY RAISE SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUES THAT MANY MEMBERS OF THE BUREAUCRACY AND PARTY WOULD PROBABLY PREFER TO REMAIN HIDDEN.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 02263 251146Z

4. THE ARTICLE HAS ANOTHER IMPORTANT POLITICAL MESSAGE. THE SPECIAL COMMENTATOR AGAIN REMINDS US THAT CRITICISM OF LIN PIAO AND UNCOVERING OF HIS MISDEEDS ARE A CENTRAL ASPECT OF THE PRESENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE GANG OF FOUR IN BOTH THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SECTORS. TO UNDERScore HIS POINT, THE COMMENTATOR QUOTES FROM TENG HSIAO-PING'S JUNE 2 SPEECH TO THE ALL ARMY POLITICAL WORK CONFERENCE: "IT IS IMPERATIVE TO MAKE AN IN-DEPTH CRITICISM AND EXPOSURE OF THE GANG OF FOUR AND TO LINK IT WITH THE EXPOSURE AND CRITICISM OF LIN PIAO'S LINE." AFTER LIN PIAO FELL FROM POWER, THE COMMENTATORY CONTINUES, THE GANG OF FOUR PREVENTED THE FULL EXPOSURE OF LIN PIAO'S CRIMES, AND EVEN NOW, SOME CADRES ARGUE THAT CRITICISM OF LIN PIAO IS NOT RELEVANT TO THE PRESENT SITUATION. THE IMPLICATION IS LEFT THAT TENG AND HIS ASSOCIATES WANT THE LIN PIAO CAMPAIGN PUSHED VIGOROUSLY IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THEIR HAND NOT ONLY IN THE CIVILIAN BUREAUCRACY BUT IN THE MILITARY AS WELL.

5. IN A SIMILAR VEIN, THE JULY 25 PEOPLE'S DAILY ALSO CARRIES AN ARTICLE BY SUNG PING, CCP FIRST SECRETARY OF KANSU PROVINCE. WHILE OSTENSIBLY PRAISING THE JULY 1 RELEASE OF

THE 1962 MAO SPEECH AND ITS SUBSEQUENT INTERPRETATION AS
A TREATISE ON DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM, SUNG ADDS A NEW TWIST
NOT HIGHLIGHTED IN PEOPLE'S DAILY: MAO'S 1962 SPEECH IS ALSO
A LESSON IN "SEEKING TRUTH FROM FACTS". NOTING THAT MAO ALSO
DISCUSSED THE POOR AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN KANSU, SUNG
PING ARGUES THAT THE PROVINCE SHOULD ALSO BASE AGRICULTURAL
POLICY ON OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS. THUS, SUNG JOINS THE RANKS
OF THE SMALL BUT GROWING NUMBER OF OFFICIALS PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED
WITH TENG'S CONTENTION THAT MARXISM-LENINISM-MAO TSE-TUNG
THOUGHT MUST EVOLVE AS HISTORICAL CONDITIONS CHANGE. WOODCOCK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PEKING02263
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780305-0857
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780723/aaaaatdx.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 37b5676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PEKING 1927, 78 PEKING 1681
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1894812
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBERATION ARMY DAILY COMMENTATOR ON REVERSAL OF VERDICTS
TAGS: PINT, MPOL, SHUM, CH, (TING HSIAO PING)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/37b5676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014